

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

UNCLAS STATE 177163

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AGAO, ETRD

SUBJECT: GAO REVIEW: FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE U.S.

FRANKFURT FOR GAO MR. CONAHAN

1. AS AN EXTENSION TO EXAMINING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES, THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE IS REVIEWING U.S. LEGAL RESTRICTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS AFFECTING INVESTMENTS IN CERTAIN U.S. INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCIAL AREAS, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATED TO NATIONAL SECURITY OR VITAL NATIONAL AREAS. REVIEW EVALUATING EFFECTIVENESS OF ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES, WHETHER RESTRICTIONS UNCLASSIFIED

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ARE ECONOMICALLY REALISTIC, ARE FEASIBLE OF IMPLEMENTATION,

AND ACTUALLY SERVE THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

2. GAO PLANS CONDUCT RELATED OVERSEAS WORK AT ACTION ADDRESSEES, CONSISTING OF DISCUSSIONS WITH COGNIZANT USG AND LOCAL OFFICIALS, AND SELECTED CORPORATE OFFICIALS, TO OBTAIN THEIR ASSESSMENTS OF U.S. INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS; ALSO, TO COMPARE U.S. AND FOREIGN-GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS. GAO EUROPEAN BRANCH (FRANKFURT) TO PERFORM WORK STARTING AUGUST 4, WITH ONE WEEK VISIT EACH POST. BRANCH DIRECTOR NOTIFYING POSTS OF ACTUAL ARRIVAL DATES, AND NAMES AND SECURITY CLEARANCES OF GAO AUDITORS.

3. GAO AWARE THAT APPOINTMENTS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR OFFICIALS ARE AT DISCRETION OF AMBASSADOR OR CG, TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY THE POST, AND WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. DEPARTMENT WISHES BE FORTHCOMING AND COOPERATE WITH GAO ON SUBJECT REVIEW WITHIN PROVISIONS 4 FAM 930-934. QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS ARISING DURING COURSE OF REVIEW SHOULD BE REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT. INGERSOLL

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